Biographies

Twila Bakker completed her Bachelor of Arts in 2008 at the University of Alberta, majoring in both History and Music. After graduating, Twila's for passion for music led her to the University of Victoria where she pursued her Master of Arts in Musicology. Her thesis, "Two Responses to Modernism: Minimalism and New Complexity in Solo Flute Repertoire" was completed under the supervision of Dr. Jonathan Goldman in 2011. An active freelance flutist, she has had the privilege to premiere numerous compositions.

Sarah Davachi earned a bachelor's degree [with distinction] in philosophy from the University of Calgary and is currently completing a master's degree in electronic music from Mills College in Oakland, California. Her academic interests include: music history and theory of the post-war era; music composition utilizing analog electronics; orientalism and chorography in the arts; and twentieth-century analytic and continental philosophy, particularly aesthetics, phenomenology, philosophy of mind and the history of philosophy. For the past four years, Sarah has also had the unique opportunity to work at Cantos Music Foundation in Calgary as an interpreter and archivist of their collection of acoustic and electronic keyboard instruments.

Stuart Paul Duncan, born in Dover, England (in 1983), received his doctorate in Composition from Cornell University where he completed his dissertation entitled "The Concept of New Complexity: Notation, Interpretation and Analysis." This research has led to publications in Perspectives of New Music and Search: Journal of New Music and Culture. Prior to his doctorate, Duncan completed a Master's degree in composition with Roger Redgate at Goldsmiths College and his Bachelors under the guidance of Dr. Roderick Watkins at Canterbury Christ Church University. Currently, Duncan is pursuing a further doctorate in Music Theory at Yale University.

Heather Olaveson recently completed her MMus degree in composition at the University of Victoria and went on to attain an MA in English at her other alma mater, Wilfrid Laurier University. She is fascinated by the relationship between text and music and hopes to continue to combine her two fields in future research. She is also active as a pianist, particularly as a vocal accompanist.